

Respect the Reef

Reefs are alive, and very fragile

Anchoring

- ♦ Anchor on sandy areas
 - Do not anchor on corals or other reef structures
- ♦ Make sure anchor is secure
 - Dragged anchors can damage corals and substrate

On the Reef

- ♦ Walking on the reef can damage reef structure
- ♦ Be careful to avoid bumping or kicking the surroundings when swimming
 - Corals are fragile and easily broken
- ♦ Avoid stirring up sediments
 - Sediments can settle on corals and smother them
- ♦ Do not grab or touch corals, urchins, sea turtles, algae, or other organisms
 - Marine life is protected by law
 - It can be dangerous to handle marine life
 - Invasive algae can be spread by broken fragments

Marine Life



Green Sea Turtle (Honu)

Protected by law

Finger coral

Common in Kaneohe Bay



Rice coral

Common in Kaneohe Bay



Collector urchin

Native, consumes invasive algae

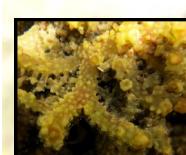


Banded urchin (wana)

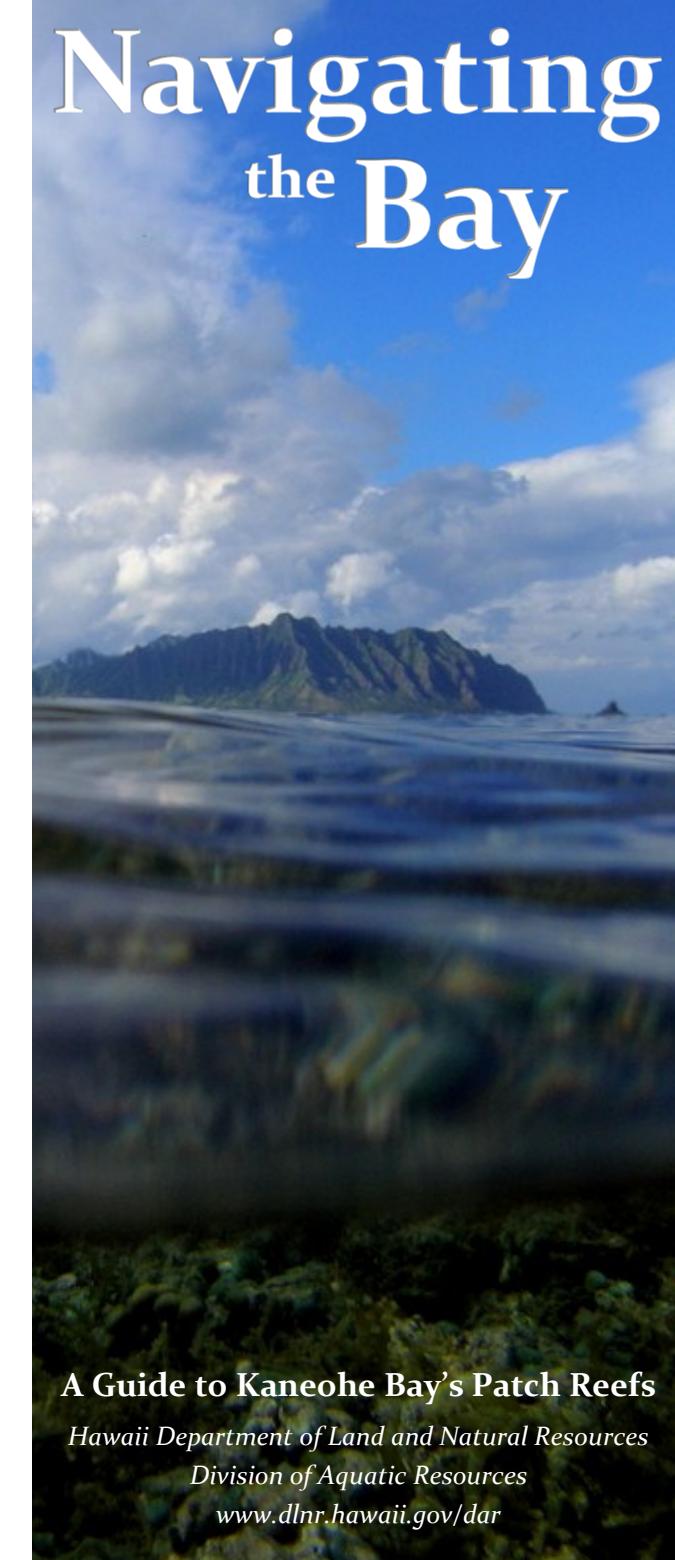
Long spines can be dangerous

Smothering seaweeds

Invasive: Overtakes reefs, spreads by fragmentation



Navigating the Bay



A Guide to Kaneohe Bay's Patch Reefs

Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources

Division of Aquatic Resources

www.dlnr.hawaii.gov/dar



Kaneohe Bay

In case of emergency or incident, contact:

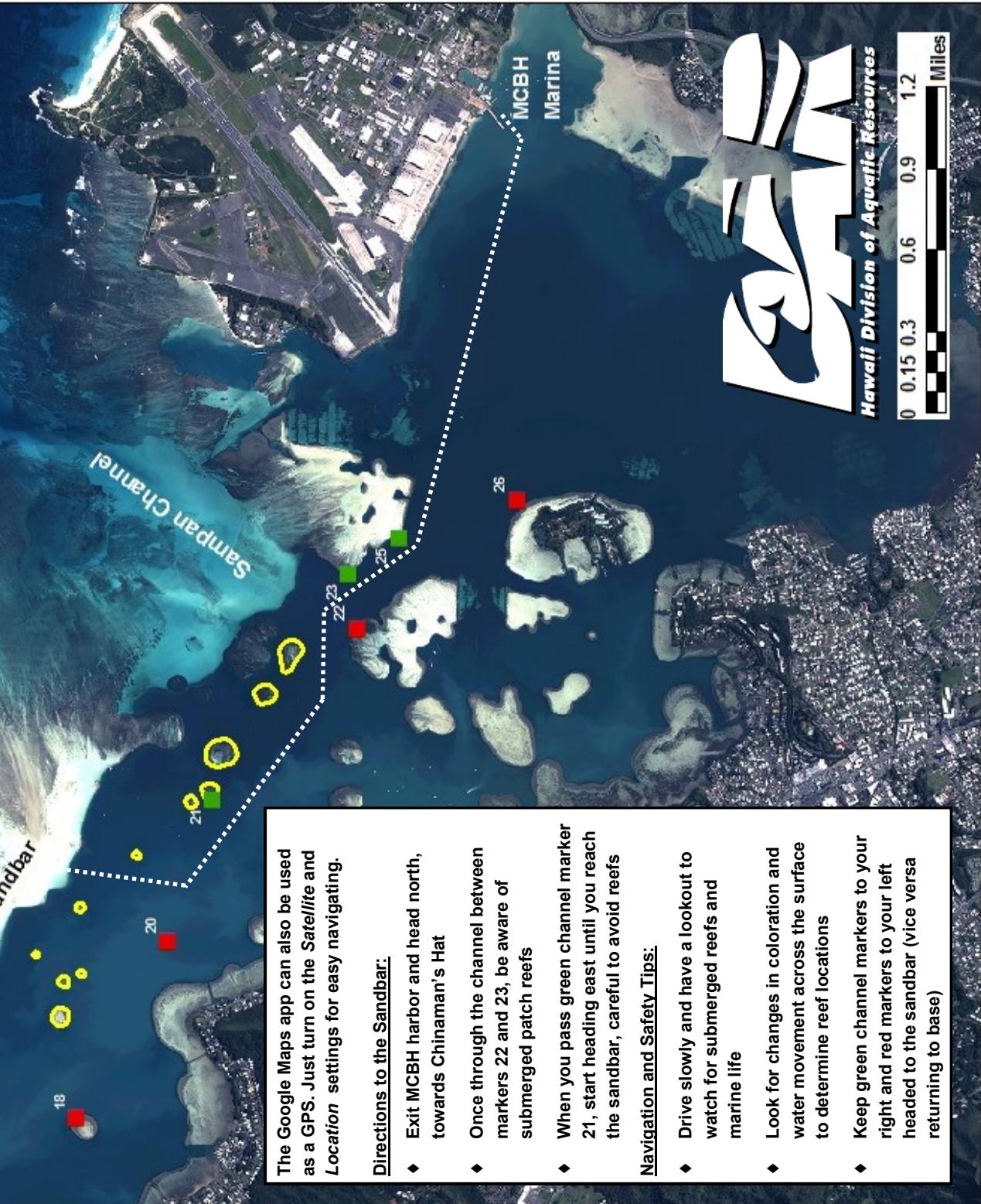
US Coast Guard Honolulu

Radio Channel 16 to report emergencies

Phone 808-842-2656 to report incidents

Legend

- Green Channel Markers
- Red Channel Markers
- Submerged Patch Reef



The Google Maps app can also be used as a GPS. Just turn on the *Satellite* and *Location* settings for easy navigating.

Directions to the Sandbar:

- Exit MCBH harbor and head north, towards Chinaman's Hat
- Once through the channel between markers 22 and 23, be aware of submerged patch reefs
- When you pass green channel marker 21, start heading east until you reach the sandbar, careful to avoid reefs

Navigation and Safety Tips:

- Drive slowly and have a lookout to watch for submerged reefs and marine life
- Look for changes in coloration and water movement across the surface to determine reef locations
- Keep green channel markers to your right and red markers to your left headed to the sandbar (vice versa returning to base)

Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources

